

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 055997
ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 SIG-03 EB-08 AID-05
STR-07 COME-00 LAB-04 TRSE-00 OES-07 PA-02 USIA-15
/088 R

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-----118018 042351Z /62

R 040152Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMCONSUL MONTREAL
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

UNCLAS STATE 055997

LONDON FOR SHIPPING ATTACHE, ICAO, FODAG, NESCO, USIAEA,

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: UN, AORG

SUBJECT:UN ADMINISTRATION: SALARIES OF UN OFFICIALS

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1. ON MARCH 1, WASHINGTON POST PUBLISHED AN ASSOCIATED
PRESS ARTICLE CRITICIZING LEVEL OF SALARIES OF SENIOR UN
OFFICIALS. WE UNDERSTAND ARTICLE ALSO APPEARED EARLIER
IN LOS ANGELES TIMES AND INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE.
(POST ARTICLE BEING POUCHED TO ADDRESSEES.)

2. CRITICAL CONGRESSIONAL COMMENTS DURING MARCH 2 HEARINGS BEFORE SENATE APPROPRIATION SUBCOMMITTEE ON FOREIGN ASSISTANCE, AND INQUIRIES FROM STAFF OF HOUSE COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS CLEARLY INDICATE THAT UNREASONABLY HIGH LEVEL OF SALARIES OF SENIOR UN SYSTEM OFFICIALS CAN WEAKEN U.S. PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR UN AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.

3. ACCORDINGLY, U.S. MISSION NEW YORK SHOULD BRING AP ARTICLE TO ATTENTION OF ERSA POSTON, CURRENTLY ATTENDING INTERNATIONAL CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION (ICSC) MEETING IN NEW YORK, WITH SUGGESTION THAT SHE MAY WISH TO INFORM HER ICSC COLLEAGUES OF GROWING U.S. CONCERN OVER UN SALARY ISSUE. MISSION WILL RECALL (STATE 49605) THAT ASSISTANT SECRETARY MAYNES MADE STRONG REPRESENTATION ON THIS SUBJECT TO ICSC CHAIRMAN QUIJANO AND VICE-CHAIRMAN AKWEI DURING THEIR FEBRUARY 15 VISIT IN WASHINGTON. MISSION SHOULD ALSO BRING U.S. CONCERNS TO ATTENTION OF OTHER MISSIONS AND KEY OFFICIALS OF UN SECRETARIAT.

4. UPON RECEIPT OF ARTICLE, MISSIONS IN GENEVA, MONTREAL, NAIROBI, PARIS AND VIENNA SHOULD SEEK OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS SIMILAR CONCERNS TO OTHER MISSIONS AND HEADS OF SPECIALIZED AGENCIES. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE055997
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: FPMCCORMICK:MIZ
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780099-1042
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197803106/aaaadluh.tel
Line Count: 86
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: dd467bb8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3115078
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UN ADMINISTRATION: SALARIES OF UN OFFICIALS UNCLASSIFIED UNCLASSIFIED
TAGS: AORG, UN
To: USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/dd467bb8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014